

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in this application:

IN THE CLAIMS

1-29. (Canceled).

30. (New) A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein for causing a computer to control the position of a visual pointer using an eye tracking apparatus by:

moving a visual pointer from a first location to a second location that corresponds to a user's eye orientation based on input received from the eye tracking apparatus;

providing a visual indicator between the first location and the second location;

providing a reading guide to a user for assisting the user in reading displayed text; and

repositioning the reading guide in response to the eye tracking apparatus determining that the user approaches the end of a line of text.

31. (New) A computer program product as in claim 30, wherein the visual indicator comprises a substantially linear display element.

32. (New) A computer program product as in claim 30, wherein the visual indicator comprises a substantially circular display element.

33. (New) A computer program product as in claim 30, wherein the visual indicator provides visual continuity between the first location and the second location of the visual pointer.

34. (New) A computer program product as in claim 30, wherein the visual indicator indicates the first location of the visual pointer and the second location of the visual pointer.

35. (New) A computer program product as in claim 30, wherein the visual indicator provides a spatial relationship between the first location of the visual pointer and the second location of the visual pointer.

36. (New) A computer program product as in claim 30, wherein the visual indicator comprises a graphic animation of a spatial relationship between the first location and the second location of the visual pointer.

37. (New) A computer program product as in claim 30, wherein moving the visual pointer to the second location is based on inferring user intent from the user's detected eye orientation.

38. (**New**) A computer program product as in claim 30, wherein the reading guide comprises an open bracket.

39. (**New**) A computer program product as in claim 30, wherein the reading guide is positioned in a margin of the displayed text.

40. (**New**) A computer program product as in claim 30, wherein the reading guide is positioned to the left of a line being read.

41. (**New**) A computer program product as in claim 30, wherein the reading guide scrolls lines of displayed text in response to the user's eye orientation based on input received from the eye tracking apparatus.

42. **(New)** A computer program product as in claim 30, wherein the reading guide is changed to a visual pointer based on sensing an eye movement of the user.

43. **(New)** A computer system comprising:

a processor;

a visual display output coupled to said processor;

said processor comprising an input for receiving a signal from an eye tracking apparatus, the eye tracking apparatus for monitoring a user's eye movements, and said processor providing a signal at said visual display output for moving a visual pointer from a first location to a second location corresponding to the user's eye orientation, and generating a visual indicator between the first location and the second location; and

said processor providing a reading guide to a user for assisting the user in reading displayed text and repositioning the reading guide in response to the eye tracking apparatus determining that the user approaches the end of a line of text.

44. **(New)** A computer system as in claim 43, wherein the visual indicator comprises a substantially linear display element.

45. **(New)** A computer system as in claim 43, wherein the visual indicator comprises a reading guide for assisting the user in reading displayed text.

46. **(New)** A computer implemented method for eye track assisted pointer positioning comprising:

operating an eye tracking apparatus to monitor a user's eye movements as the user views a visual display;

detecting the user's eye orientation, relative to the visual display;

moving a visual pointer from a first location to a second location of the visual display that corresponds to the user's eye orientation;

providing a visual indicator in the visual display between the first location and the second location;

providing a reading guide to a user for assisting the user in reading displayed text; and

repositioning the reading guide in response to the eye tracking apparatus determining the user approaches the end of a line of text.

47. (New) A computer implemented method as in claim 46, wherein the visual indicator provides visual continuity between the first location and the second location of the visual pointer.

48. (New) A computer implemented method as in claim 46, wherein moving the visual pointer to the second location is based on inferring user intent from the user's detected eye orientation.

49. (New) A computer implemented method for eye track assisted pointer positioning comprising:

operating an eye tracking apparatus to monitor a user's eye movements as the user views a visual display;

detecting the user's eye orientation, relative to the visual display;

providing a reading guide to the user for assisting the user in reading displayed text; and

moving the reading guide from a first location to a second location of the visual display that corresponds to the user's eye orientation in response to the eye tracking apparatus determining that the user approaches the end of a line of text.

50. (New) A computer implemented method as in claim 49, wherein the reading guide comprises an open bracket.

51. (New) A computer implemented method as in claim 49, wherein the reading guide is positioned in a margin of the displayed text.

52. (New) A computer implemented method as in claim 49, wherein the reading guide scrolls lines of displayed text in response to the user's eye orientation based on input received from the eye tracking apparatus.

53. (New) A computer implemented method as in claim 49, wherein the reading guide is changed to a visual pointer based on sensing an eye movement of the user.

54. (New) A computer implemented method as in claim 46, further comprising:
automatically changing the visual indicator to a reading guide in response to the eye tracking apparatus recognizing a user's eye movement pattern as a read mode, where the reading guide is located in a margin at the beginning of a line of text that is read; and
in response to the eye tracking apparatus determining that the user's eye movements are one of slowing down or stopping on a link in the text, exiting the read mode and changing the visual indicator to a pointer for a pointing device to enable the user to click on the link.

55. (New) A computer implemented method as in claim 54, where the visual indicator is one of a linear retro guide and a pulse and is not comprised of multiple mouse pointers.

56. (New) A computer implemented method as in claim 46, wherein the visual indicator comprises a substantially linear display element.